



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 434

LCO No. 1194

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING SAFETY NET SERVICES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17b-112e of the general statutes, as amended by
2 section 57 of public act 01-2 of the June special session and section 129
3 of public act 01-9 of the June special session, is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

5 (a) The Department of Social Services shall provide safety net
6 services for certain families no longer receiving benefits or who are at
7 risk of losing benefits under the temporary family assistance program.
8 Such families include those who are (1) not eligible for six-month
9 extensions of benefits due to [:(1) The] (A) the receipt of two sanctions
10 from the department during the first twenty months of the twenty-
11 one-month time limit of said temporary family assistance program, [;
12 or (2)] or (B) the determination by the department that such a family
13 has not made a good-faith effort to seek and maintain employment,
14 and (2) have received six-month extensions and are precluded from the
15 granting of any additional six-month extensions and have a total
16 family income at a level below the payment standard.

17 (b) Said safety net shall consist of services provided through the
 18 existing community service delivery network with additional
 19 resources provided by the Department of Social Services. Services shall
 20 be provided in-kind or through vendor or voucher payment. Services
 21 may include the following: (1) Food, shelter, clothing and employment
 22 assistance; (2) eviction prevention; (3) intensive case management; (4)
 23 continuous monitoring for child abuse or neglect; and (5) for families
 24 at risk of losing benefits under the temporary family assistance
 25 program, individual performance contracts, that shall be administered
 26 by the Labor Department and that require job training, job searching,
 27 volunteer work, participation in parenting programs or counseling or
 28 any other requirements deemed necessary by the Labor Commissioner.

29 (c) Families successfully meeting the program requirements
 30 established by the individual performance contracts in subdivision (5)
 31 of subsection (b) of this section prior to the end of the twenty-one-
 32 month time limit shall be considered to have made a good faith effort
 33 to comply with the requirements of the program for the purposes of
 34 qualifying for a six-month extension, provided they have made a good
 35 faith effort to comply with the individual performance contract or have
 36 not incurred a sanction subsequent to completing the individual
 37 performance contract.

38 (d) The Commissioner of Social Services shall implement policies
 39 and procedures necessary for the purposes of this section while in the
 40 process of adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form,
 41 provided the commissioner prints notice of intention to adopt the
 42 regulations in the Connecticut Law Journal within twenty days of
 43 implementing such policies and procedures. Policies and procedures
 44 implemented pursuant to this subsection shall be valid until the time
 45 final regulations are effective.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2002</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the number of families who will qualify for existing safety net services.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]